

ABSTRACT

Particles larger than 7 microns in diameter and containing a therapeutic material are described. Such particles are sufficiently large to lodge in tissue or a blood vessel and can be made to rapidly degrade therein before creating infarcts. Rapid degradation of liposomes containing a therapeutic agent can be achieved by either preparing the liposome in a high salt solution or incorporating in the liposome a component which is stable at or below room temperature, but which becomes unstable at 35°C. or higher. Such particles are useful in delivering, for example, angiogenic growth factors or genes coding for angiogenic growth factors into the coronary arteries of the heart or the heart muscle, as well as other therapeutic agents into organs or tissues or blood vessels feeding the same to achieve a desired effect.